

# Birthstones and Their Meanings

## January



**Garnet** is thought to keep the wearer safe during travel.

**Characteristics:** Loyalty, Faithfulness and Truth

The Brilliance of the Garnet makes this gemstone a most prized possession. During the 18th Century, genuine garnets were considered the most treasured jewel to own, and it was worn by only the most wealthy and influential people. Genuine Garnets are found in Africa, India and South America.

## February



**Amethyst** is said to strengthen relationships and give its wearer courage. At one time, only royalty could wear the gem. Ancient Greeks thought that the amethyst guarded against intoxication. In fact, amethyst comes from amethystos, a Greek word meaning “sober.”

**Characteristics:** Sense of Calm and Dependable Nature

The Genuine Amethyst, because of its beauty, warmth and color, has always been a very desirable gemstone. This gemstone is mined in So. America, Russia and India.in Africa, India and South America.

## March



**Aquamarine** was thought to cure heart, liver, and stomach diseases—all one had to do was drink the water in which the gem had been soaking. Early sailors believed that aquamarine talismans, etched with the likeness of the sea god Neptune, protected them against ocean dangers.

**Characteristics:** Elegance and Grace

The Genuine Aquamarine reminded the Romans of the Mediterranean Sea. Primary sources of Aquamarines are Brazil, Russia and Madagascar.

## April



**Diamond** in addition to being a symbol of everlasting love, was once thought to bring courage. In Sanskrit, the diamond is called “vajra,” which also means lightning; in Hindu mythology, vajra was the weapon of Indra, the king of gods.

**Characteristics:** Light and Innocence

The Genuine Diamond has always been the most treasured jewel known to man. The major sources are South America, Russia, and Brazil.

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## May

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Emerald



**Emerald** was one of Cleopatra's favorite gems. It has long been associated with fertility, rebirth, and love. Ancient Romans went so far as to dedicate this stone to Venus, the goddess of love and beauty. Today, it is thought that emeralds signify wisdom, growth, and patience.

**Characteristics:** Success and Wealth

The word Emerald is derived from the Sanskrit word meaning the "green of growing things" and people who wore emeralds symbolized a continually growing love. Genuine emeralds are mined primarily in Brazil, Colombia and Africa.

## June

June  
Pearl



### June

**Pearl** has long been a symbol of purity. The ancient Greeks believed that pearls were the hardened tears of joy from Aphrodite, the goddess of love.

**Characteristics:** Purity

The Japanese have developed expertise in breeding oysters specifically for producing cultured pearls. Today, pearls are highly desirable for their beautiful luster. Pearls are principally harvested in oysters in the Sea of growing love.

## July

July  
Ruby



**Ruby** was regarded by ancient Hindus as the "king of gems." It was believed to protect its wearer from evil. Today, the ruby's deep-red color signifies love and passion.

**Characteristics:** Perfection

The Genuine Ruby is considered a highly prized gem of enduring value. Rubies are mined primarily in Burma and Thailand.

## August

August  
Peridot



**Peridot** symbolizes strength. It is sometimes called the evening emerald for its light green color. It was once believed that the green peridot crystals found in volcanic ashes were the tears of the volcano goddess, Pele. When set in gold, this gem was said to protect the wearer from nightmares.

**Characteristics:** Gladness of Heart

The beauty and brilliance of the Genuine Peridot makes it a treasured possession by all who wear it. Sources are St. John, and small island in the Red Sea

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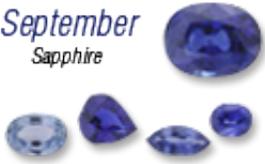
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## September

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Sapphire



**Sapphire** was once thought to guard against evil and poisoning. It was believed that a venomous snake would die if placed in a vessel made of sapphire. Traditionally a favorite stone of priests and kings, the sapphire symbolizes purity and wisdom.

**Characteristics:** Prosperity

The Genuine Sapphire possesses outstanding beauty and has a noble history. Sapphires have always been highly valued by the Royal Family of Australia, Cambodia and Thailand.

## October

October  
Opal



**Opal** symbolizes faithfulness and confidence. The word comes from the Latin opalus, meaning “precious jewel.” Necklaces with opals set in them were worn to repel evil and to protect eyesight.

**Characteristics:** Hope

It's fiery beauty makes the Genuine Opal one of the most popular gemstones of modern times. Genuine Opals are mined in the Lightning Ridge area of Australia.

## November

November  
Citrine



**Citrine** The first civilization thought to wear citrine (a yellow variety of quartz) were the Romans, who shaped it into cabochon—polished but uncut facets of stone worn in jewelry. During the Romantic Period in turn-of-the-century Europe, citrine became more popular for the way it visually enhances gold jewelry. Citrine, like all forms of quartz, was believed to have magical powers and was worn as protection against evil and snake venom poisoning.

**Characteristics:** Cheerfulness

Genuine Citrine is noted for its delicate transparency. Genuine Citrine is found, almost exclusively, in Brazil, although some mining is done in Madagascar.

## December

December  
Blue Zircon



**Blue Zircon** Zircons are thought to increase intuition, durability and steadiness. Many believe that those who wear the Zircon will experience a decrease in depression and insomnia.

**Characteristics:** Relieves Pain

Thailand, Cambodia, and Sri Lanka, the source of the largest gem crystals and the greatest variety of colors, produce the major portion of the world's zircon gem material.

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